

School Rumble

スクールランブル

Vol.

16



Jin Kobayashi

小林尽

Shonen
Magazine
Comics

School
Rumble 16

Jin Kobayashi



Jenma

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Eni



Sukuran Suspense Theater The Yagami Onsen Hot Springs Murder

Starts on p. 113. (Contained in one chapter)

Director/Script: J. Kobayashi

Cast: Tsukamoto Tenma, Harima Kenji, Sarah Adamus,
Harai Haruki, Sawachika Eri, others.

[What to Watch For]



**A Murderer Escapes into the Steam of the Baths...
A Famous Detective Investigates a Case Shrouded in Mysteries!**



Officer Sarah
(Sarah Adamus)
An officer of the Yagami
Police Department. A rookie
who is teamed up with
Detective Harai



Detective Harai
(Harai Haruki)
A man well known to
Harima. He is a long-time
member of the Yagami Police
Department.



Private Detective Harima
(Harima Kenji)
Known for "plunging into
the labyrinth," this famous
detective has solved case
after impossible case.



Detective's Assistant
Tsukamoto
(Tsukamoto Tenma)
Coincidentally at the scene
when the incident occurs.
She's very enthusiastic about
her job, but she's still very
much a trainee.

Watch for the many unique characters! ▼



Detective's Assistant Tsukamoto Tenma uses her day off to take a trip with her school buddies to the famous hot-spring bath resort, Yagami Onsen. But what should have been a fun, relaxing outing takes a twist when a grisly murder is committed in the very inn where she is staying. The murder victim is the physicist Imadori Kyōsuke, and the place where he is found is the women's baths! As the investigation continues, a different side of the famous womanizer, Imadori, is revealed. Was this a crime of passion? Was it just an accident? This is where the famous deductive abilities of Private Detective Harima shine through!

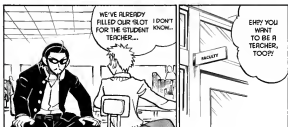






Harima Kenji: Switch On.













Sorry! I Wasn't Able to Stop Her. (Tani)

193 THE SCHOOL OF ROCK











...THESE
GRADE
SCHOOL KIDS
ARE MAKING
FUN OF ME...?



HUH? COULD
IT BE
POSSIBLE
THAT...



NO CHANCE
OF THAT.
NO WAY!



.....
NWW!
TWO!

THIS'LL SHOW
THAT JERK SHŌJI
WHAT HE NEEDS
TO LEARN!

WE'LL GIVE
THAT GUY
BRUISES ALL
OVER HIS
BODY!!



THEY'VE MADE SO
MANY TEACHERS BREAK
DOWN IN TEARS!
WHEN SHŌJI-KUN ISN'T HERE,
THEY THINK THEY CAN DO
ANYTHING THEY WANT!

RYŪSUKI-
KUN AND HIS
FRIENDS ARE
JUST THE
WORST!



OKAY,
LET'S
BEGIN,
CLASS!!



AT THE SAME
TIME, WE'RE
GOING TO
GIVE THAT
TRAINEE
TEACHER A
LESSON!!



Harima Kenji: In a Way, It's to Be Expected.







THAT'S WHEN
I CAME OUT
AND SAID IT!!

BUT AFTER THAT,
THEY BOMBARDED
ME WITH
QUESTIONS! IT WAS
HARD!!

KIKO JUST SEEMED
KNOW, HUH?

THE LOOK IN
THEIR EYES
SUDDENLY
CHANGED!!



I SEE. JUST
LET SENSEI
HAVE A LOOK
AND...

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
THIS PART.

YES, MIKO-CHAN!

EXCUSE ME,
SENSEI!







BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, TAKANO?

HMP? THAT'S PRETTY GROWN UP OF ERI-CHAN.

ME?



TRUE. AKIRA IS REALLY GOOD WITH MATH AND ECONOMICS. HMP?

YEAH! I CAN PICTURE THAT!

I MEAN... OH, WHAT WAS THAT THING?

A STOCK-BROKER, I...

AKIRA-CHAN WILL MAKE A FORTUNE IN STOCKS OR SOMETHING.



MADAM PRESIDENT!

HMP?

AND WITH ALL THE MONEY SHE'S MADE, SHE'LL START HER OWN BUSINESS!

SHE'LL DROP OUT OF TODAY...

YEAH! SHE'D DO THAT!



NOTHING IN LIFE HAPPENS EASILY!

I'M JEALOUS! WE COULD GET THERE SO EASILY!



Y-YES, MA'AM!!

YES, I CAN LEND YOU SOME MONEY, BUT 300 MILLION*

ONLY THAT MUCH?

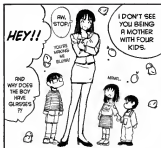


BUT DIDN'T YOU WANT TO GO INTO ARCHEOLOGY OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

YOU'RE ALWAYS MAKING THE ROUNDS OF THE MUSEUMS AND OLD TEMPLES.

300 MILLION YEN = ABOUT 15 MILLION.













NAME

Tawaraya Satsuki



JOB

Rookie

POWER(UNIT)

Eating Contest Power

SKILL

Determination

FINISH BLOW

Three-Point Shot

WEAK POINT

Asô-sempai

LEVEL



School
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD











BACKGROUND DRINKING IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW. LET'S NOT SAY: WE'RE TWENTY-ONE, OKAY?



She knows. She got the Message Across.







But He Liked Her... because He Liked Her...

School
Rumble





NAME = WATCHED COMIC FROM'S WITH DAVID





20,000 YEN • SPECK • 1200



Sawachika Eri: Could Do without Their "Help."









RIGHT?



OH!

Y.

YES, I
GUESS
YOU'RE
RIGHT.



SNOW.



UM-
BRELLA.



"I'm Sorry," ... Right?



WHAT'LL WE DO NOW? IT'S COMING DOWN PRETTY THICK.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BEAT IT APART BY THE HANDLE, DID YOU?

NOW IT'S COMPLETELY WRECKED!!



WHY DON'T YOU OPEN IT UP?



I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE HINTING AT! HERE, YOU CAN BORROW MY UMBRELLA! TAKE IT AND GO HOME!



HUH?

TWO CAN FIT UNDER IT, RIGHT?



WELL, IT ISN'T MY FAULT THAT IT'S SNOWING!

SAY, BEARD... I'M COLD.

It's Cold, and It's Warm.

NAME

Inaba Miki



JOB

REPORTER

POWER(UNIT)

CURIOSITY POWER

SKILL

FAST-TALK

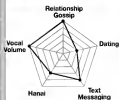
FINISH BLOW

**FULL FRONTAL GOSSIP-FINDING
ATTACK**

WEAK POINT

SILENCE

LEVEL



School
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD







Nakamura: Butler of the Sawachika Household (F.Y.).







IT'S TRUE THAT
BEARD IS THE
FIRST MAN
WHO HAS EVER
COME THIS
FAR.



I DON'T REALLY
KNOW MYSELF.

IT'S BECAUSE I
DON'T KNOW THAT
I'M UNEASY. MAYBE I
SHOULD TAKE A FEW
STEPS...JUST A FEW,
FARTHER DOWN THE
PATH...?



WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING??

AH!!

NOW
THAT YOU
MENTION
IT, THAT'S
RIGHT, HUH?

HEY!!! WAIT,
BEARD!!
THAT'S NO
GOOD!!

THE RULE IS
THAT WE NEED
PICTURES WITH
ALL OF THE
CLUB'S
MEMBERS
INCLUDED!!

ALL
OF THE
PICTURES
HERE HAVE
YOU IN
THEM!



Harima Kenji: Flying by the Seat of His Pants.





NAME

Tôgô Haruna



JOB

YOUNG LADY

POWER/UNIT

TÔGÔ DNA POWER

SKILL

YOUNG LADY RETURNING FROM LIFE
ABROAD

FINISH BLOW

ONII-CHAN, WILL YOU SHUT UP!

WEAK POINT

STAYING UP LATE

LEVEL



Shool
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD



STAY OVER?



IN YOUR
HOUSE?

AH...



ME?



TSK/
YEAH,
I GET
IT!

THIS IS
THE ONLY
THING WE
CAN DO!!

NO, I
MEAN...

IF WE
DON'T GET
IT DONE,
IT'LL GET
EVERYBODY
UPSET!!



YOU
REALLY..

...TAKE
THESE
RESPON-
SIBILITIES
SERIOUSLY.
DON'T
YUP?

AND
I HAD
THINGS
TO DO,
TOO!

AWWW!!



EH..?



OH, MY
GOD!!
WHAT JUST
HAPPENED?!



WHAT
WAS I
THINKING,
SAYING
SOMETHING
LIKE
THAT?

うお、おお、

YEAH, I
KNOW I
SAID IT
MYSELF,
BUT...



MM.

ISN'T
THIS
SO?

I NEVER
ANTICIPATED
THAT THE
SITUATION
WOULD
PROGRESS
THIS FAR.

A VERY
GOOD
QUESTION,
HOWEVER...

MM-
WHAT? I'M...

NAKAMURA!



G
Y
A
A
A
H!!

MM!!

MASARU,
BREAK OUT THE
CONGRATULA-
TORY
SEKI-HAN!!

WE'RE CELEBRATING
TODAY!!

POP

YOU WISH FOR ME
TO ARRANGE A
SITUATION WHERE
THE YOUNG MAN
CANNOT HELP
BUT TAKE THE
ROMANTIC LEAD,
CORRECT?

YOU MAY
COUNT ON
YOUR HUMBLE
SERVANT
NAKAMURA'S
FULL
COOPERATION!!

WITH THE
SITUATION
AS IT IS, YOUNG
MISS...

DON'T
SAY
THINGS
LIKE
THAT,
IDIOT!!















NAME

Nakamura



JOB

BUTLER

POWER/UNIT

MERCENARY POWER

SKILL

KAGEMUSHA (BODY DOUBLE)

FINISH BLOW

DRESSING IN DRAG

WEAK POINT

YOUNG MISS

LEVEL



Steel
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD















Yes, Nothing, Not Even a Sword, Could Separate Them!!



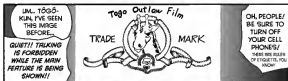


A Slightly Happy Ending.

School
Rumble















It Makes an Odd Sort of Sense.





NAME

Suzuki Masaru



JOB

COOK

POWER/UNIT

LOVE FOR MOTHER

SKILL

MM

FINISH BLOW

MMMM!

WEAK POINT

MM...

LEVEL



Steel
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD



















NAME

Saeko



JOB

WITCH

POWER/UNIT

NIGHTLIFE WORK POWER

SKILL

CASTING COMPELLING
UPWARD GLANCES

FINISH BLOW

PINK DOM PERIGNON

WEAK POINT

THE SUN

LEVEL



Steel
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD









..SO I CAME TO CHECK OUT THE SCENE...
BUT THIS TIME THE COMMENTS ARE NORMAL THING USUAL...



Ah, They Meet.







At That Moment, a Princess Was Watching....!!



School Rumble

NAME

Nagayama Toki



JOB

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

POWER/UNIT

PERFECT JAPANESE BEAUTY

SKILL

GREAT LISTENER

FINISH BLOW

**WOW! YOU KNOW EVERYTHING,
DON'T YOU?**

WEAK POINT

D.J. YOSHIMO FANS

LEVEL

Quiet Beauty



School
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD





















Blowguns: Another Rule of Mysteries.





By the Way, Sarah Had Guessed the Truth.













She Likes Playing Tricks Both Now and Then.









Huh? It... Couldn't Be...?









Just Like Harima.... Just Like Eri...

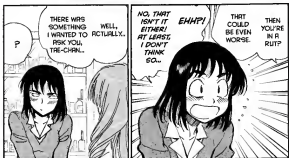












Anegasaki Tae: Thinks About Love More Than Work.













.....
O..KAY..



THIS IS REALLY
STRANGE! I
KNOW I FELL
ASLEEP ON
SCHOOL
GROUNDS..

SO WHERE
AM I NOW??

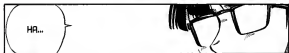


SO THE
ONLY
THING I
CAN DO
NOW IS
RUN!

I DON'T
SEE ANY
SIGNS
OF
TRAINS
OR
TAXIS.

IT'S 2:30 A.M.
SIX HOURS
UNTIL
HOMEROOM
BEGINS..





HANA!
CONTINUED
TO RUN WITH
DETERMINATION
THAT
THREATENED TO
SINK HIS SOUL
DEEP INTO THE
DARKNESS!

NOT A SINGLE
CAR COULD BE
SEEN, AND THE
ROAD SEEMED
TO STRETCH
FOREVER.



HAKODATE?!

If You Think about It, He's Come a Very Long Way.



THIS COULD ALL
BE IN VAIN. THE
ODOR OF BLOOD
ROSE UP FROM
DEEP WITHIN HIS
THROAT!

HE EVEN BEGAN
TO FORGET THE
REASON HE WAS
RUNNING IN THE
FIRST PLACE!

HIS LEGS
BEGAN
TO FEEL
HEAVIER
AND
HEAVIER.

HOW
MANY
DOZEN
KILO-
METERS
MUST
HE STILL
RUN?



IF HE WERE TO FALL
DEAD SOMEWHERE
ON THE ROAD, IT
WOULD BE THE
SAME AS IF HE HAD
NEVER STARTED
THE JOURNEY IN
THE FIRST PLACE!

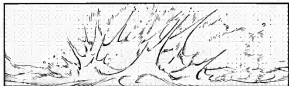
...HE KNEW
THAT HE
MUST NEVER
STOP!

HOWEVER...

Those Waves Have to Be Dyed Some Brilliant Color.



But Even So, Hanal...





I Christian Thee the Idiot's Triathlon.

NAME

Tanaka Kazuya



JOB

CAPTAIN

POWER/UNIT

"STUBBORN AS WEEDS" POWER

SKILL

COMMANDER

FINISH SLOW

IF WE WIN, I'LL TELL HER HOW I FEEL.

WEAK POINT

NUMBER OF CHANCES

LEVEL



School
Rumble

OFFICIAL
CHARACTER
TRADING
CARD

BONUS RUMBLE

The Yagami Yabusames, the Born-Loser Team That is the Pride of Yagami.



ORIGINAL BONUS MANGA

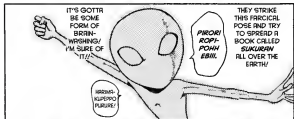
BONUS RUMBLE



Bonus Rumble Fin.

A Two-Page Preview Comedy!

School Rumble



HARIMA BEGAN HIS BATTLE, BUT...





Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Sukuran, page 3

The Japanese, especially young Japanese, love to shorten words, and although “School Rumble” in English is only three syllables, in Japanese it is *Su-ku-u-ru Ra-n-bu-ru*, eight syllables. One of the ways to shorten a word is to take the first one or two syllables from the first part of the word and combine it with the first one or two syllables from the second part of the word: in this case, *Su-ku* and *Ra-n* (“n” can be its own syllable in Japanese). When young Japanese talk about *School Rumble*, they usually call it *Sukuran*.

Al’mu seben iearzu oldo, page 16

Harima’s response was English written in Japanese characters, whereas the other children responded in the English alphabet. Kobayashi-sensei was emphasizing that Harima’s response was not only wrong, but badly pronounced. This translation tried to convey that feeling as well.

Tôdai, page 24

Tôkyô Daigaku—the Japanese name for the top university in Japan, Tokyo University—is normally shortened to Tôdai (see the above note on *Sukuran* for shortening rules). Tôdai’s entrance exam is the hardest in the country, and all entrants compete with each other for the limited number of slots available to new students. Tôdai graduates are almost guaranteed good jobs or high positions in government. Half of Japan’s prime ministers are Tôdai graduates.

Indy Jones, page 25

The Indiana Jones series of films is almost as popular in Japan as it is in the United States.

Share a kanji, page 73

The *masa* part of Tōgō Masakazu's name is the same character as *miyabi* ("refinement") in Kyoto's nickname *Miyabi no Miyako*, which means the "Capital of Refinement."

Burn down some mountains, page 73

Usually held in mid-August, the Daimonji Gozan Okuribi is a festival in which fires are lit on five hills (*gozan*) around Kyoto. On each mountain a different shape is set ablaze. They include the shape of the kanji character *dai* ("large"), another character *myō* ("miraculous"), a third character *hō* ("doctrine"), the shape of a ship (*funagata*), and finally, the torii symbol of the shrine. It is conducted as a part of Kyoto's Obon celebrations.

Minamoto Yoshitsune and the Tengu, page 74

Yoshitsune (1159–1189) is a legendary general from the time of the rise of the Minamoto Shogunate. When he was very young, his father was executed by the enemies of the Minamotos, the Taira clan, but Yoshitsune and his older brother Yoritomo were spared and sent to different locations in Japan. Yoshitsune was sent to Kuramayama north of Kyoto, where, as legend has it, he escaped into the woods and was trained in swordsmanship by the supernatural beings, the Tengu.



Packy and the drama, page 74

NHK's renowned Taiga Drama (a year-long period drama that has a new historical subject every year) portrayed life and legends surrounding Yoshitsune in its 2005 edition. It starred the handsome young idol Takezawa Hideaki, who is better known to his fans as Tacky, and won outstanding ratings for that year. Tacky's counterpart in the *School Rumble* universe is called Packy.

Nara, page 76

The capital prior to Kyoto was the ancient city of Nara. Burial mounds thought to be for ancient kings dating back to the third and fourth centuries AD are found in the area, leading to the belief that it was Japan's capital at that time. Its tenure as Japan's capital lasted until 794, when the capital was moved to Kyoto. Nowadays it is a major tourist destination and houses many major museums, shrines, parks, and temples, including a huge wooden statue of the Buddha (the Daibutsu).

Japanese-style house, page 86

Most homes built in Japan today are Western-style homes slightly modified for Japanese use. But older Japanese homes were typically floored with tatami mats and used traditional sliding doors. The popularity of Western-style homes these days means that there are many Japanese young people who have never entered a functioning traditional home.

Female white face, page 100

As in Western ideals of several hundred years ago, the untanned white face denoted female beauty in Japanese society. Medieval Japanese women went so far as to paint their faces a stark white, using makeup to try to achieve that beauty. No one goes to such extremes now, but the aesthetic that whiter faces are more beautiful still lingers.

Karaoke boxes, page 116

Most westerners have heard of karaoke by now, but the karaoke box is still rather foreign in Western nations. Karaoke boxes are small rooms that can seat different sizes of parties. Typically bench seats are arranged on three walls and along the fourth is a small stage for singing and the audio/video equipment. Most karaoke boxes feature ways to order refreshments. The walls tend to be heavily soundproofed.

Ayu, page 117

Probably refers to the pop diva Ayumi Hamasaki.

All alone, page 118

Although attitudes are changing, an unchaperoned high school couple in a private space like a karaoke box would still be thought of as a little scandalous.

Tôdai and the Red Gate, page 129

The unquestioned "best" university in Japan is the state-sponsored school, Tokyo Daigaku (Tokyo University or Tôdai for short). Admission is achieved by passing the entrance exams, which have a reputation of being the toughest in the country. Half of all of the nation's prime ministers are graduates of Tôdai, and graduation from the school is almost a guarantee of a good, prestigious job. The Red Gate (Akamon) was built nearly 200 years ago to welcome the daughter of a Shogun to the household of a wealthy samurai family, and it still stands as a symbol of the university now built on that same spot.

Ronin, page 80

The word ronin is all over American pop culture these days, but for those who still don't know what it means, a ronin is a masterless samurai. Samurai were hired by lords and paid a living wage. The unemployed ronin roamed Japan looking for work, and when they couldn't find it, they often resorted to theft, piracy, and other less than legal methods. However, the honorable ronin who helps the poor oppressed people he happens to come across is a common theme in Japanese period TV dramas and movies.

Prick up your eyes, page 83

In this passage Lala misquoted a Japanese idiom by saying, "Open the holes of your eyes!" The actual Japanese idiom translates to "Open the holes of your ears" and means to listen well. This translation substituted a similar English idiom and had Lala make the same mistake.

Traditional baby buggy, page 85

Fans of the manga *Lone Wolf and Cub* will be familiar with the baby buggy that Hanai rode in during the events of Volume 15. This is the kind of baby buggy that Suga is talking about here.

Tôgô Heihachirô, page 86

Admiral Tôgô Heihachirô (1846–1934) was born into a samurai family just prior to the Meiji Restoration and served aboard ship during the conflicts surrounding that period. He went to England to study her seacraft, then returned to rise quickly in the Imperial Japanese navy. During the Japanese–Russian war, he personally commanded during two pivotal naval battles in which his fleets soundly defeated the Russian fleets. His name became a household word, not only in Japan but also in the West. He was especially loved by the people of England, who dubbed him the Nelson of the East.

Hanging bridge effect, page 112

As noted by Akira in Volume 1, the hanging bridge effect is considered a method for having someone fall in love with you. When two people are in a life-threatening situation, such as being on a wobbly, unstable rope bridge, the thrill of fear and adrenaline combine to create an experience that feels very much like falling in love, and can be misinterpreted that way.



Onsen, page 113

Japan is riddled with volcanoes, and the combination of lava-heated water and the snowy mountain settings leave most Japanese yearning to vacation at these traditional resorts. Onsen hot-springs resorts feature Japanese-style inns where the main recreation is good food and open-air hot-springs baths.

Children's song murder, page 115

Yokomizo Seishi wrote Japan's most famous mystery novels, most starring his famous character Kindaichi Kôzuke (from which the hit manga series *Kindaichi Case Files* receives its inspiration). In one of these novels, a series of grisly murders follow exactly the lyrics of a local nursery rhyme. Tenma's narration here is probably an oblique reference to that novel.

Knocking Harima out, page 122

Another famous detective is Edogawa Conan of the manga series *Case Closed (Detective Conan)*. In the story, Conan is the pseudonym of a brilliant teenage mystery fan, who is injected with a secret formula that changes his body into that of a grade-schooler. Stuck in a child's body, he stays with his teenage love interest and her incompetent private-detective father. When his brilliant mind breaks the case, he wants to reveal the murderer, but he knows that no one will take a grade-schooler seriously. He often knocks the private-detective father out, mimics his voice, and reveals the identity of the criminal. Tenma is doing the same in this scene.

Why the clothespin?

page 123

Because she knocked Harima out, she is imitating his voice to reveal the murderer. She is using the clothespin to mask her real voice.



Outside the station, page 141

In Japan, one commonly meets one's date in some spot that is familiar to both. One of the most commonly chosen spots is just outside the train station, since trains are almost ubiquitous in Japan.

Axe kick, page 142

The *kakato otoshi* karate kick is called an axe kick in English.

Getting out of the bath and catching cold, page 143

In Japan, most people take baths as opposed to showers, and they are traditionally taken at night. Also, most Japanese houses lack central heating, instead heating only the occupied rooms with a kerosene stove or space heater. If one is not careful, the extreme changes between hot and cold rooms can lower one's defenses, allowing one to catch cold easily.

Run Hanai, page 151

Osamu Dazai wrote a classic of Japanese literature, *Run Melos* (1940), that is read by nearly every Japanese student at some time or another. Hanai's run is a parody of that book. The book's story is of a shepherd named Melos in ancient Greece, who is caught trying to assassinate the local tyrant king. He begs to be spared so that he can attend his sister's wedding, and the king agrees, but only if he imprisons Melos's friend. If Melos does not come back, the friend will be executed in his stead. Melos attends the wedding but oversleeps, and the next day he realizes that in only a few hours his friend will be executed. The bulk of the story is Melos's excruciating attempt to get back to the capital city to save his friend and be executed himself.

Hakodate, page 152

A city on the southern tip of the northern island of Hokkaido (see the arrow on the map of Japan on page 152). Hanai has to run back to the Tokyo area around 700 km (425 miles) in a straight line from Hakodate. Much farther by road, rail, or sea.

Yabusames, page 158

Yabusame is the art of horseback archery—this has been converted into the name of the Yagami soccer team.

About the Creator

Jin Kobayashi was born in Tokyo. *School Rumble* is his first manga series. He has answered these questions from his fans:

What is your hobby?

Basketball

Which manga inspired you to become a creator?

Dragon Ball

Which character in your manga do you like best?

Kenji Harima

What type of manga do you want to create in the future?

Action

Name one book, piece of music, or movie you like.

The Indiana Jones series

